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General Assembly

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Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 111

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, AND REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Having considered, for the period ended 31 December 1995, the financial reports and audited financial statements of the United Nations, including United Nations peacekeeping operations, the International Trade Centre and the United Nations University,[1] the United Nations Development Programme,[2] the United Nations Children's Fund,[3] the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[4] the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[5] the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[6] the Fund of the United Nations Environment

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. I, sects. I and V; vol. II, sects. I and V; vol. III, sect. IV; vol. IV, sects. I and V.

[2] Ibid., Supplement No. 5A (A/51/5/Add.1), sects. I and IV.

[3] Ibid., Supplement No. 5B (A/51/5/Add.2), sects. I and IV.

[4] Ibid., Supplement No. 5C (A/51/5/Add.3), sects. I and V.

[5] Ibid., Supplement No. 5D (A/51/5/Add.4), sects. I and V.

[6] Ibid., Supplement No. 5E (A/51/5/Add.5), sects. III and V.

Programme,[7] the United Nations Population Fund,[8] the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,[9] the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme[10] and the United Nations Office for Project Services,[11] the reports and audit opinions of the Board of Auditors,[12] the concise summary of the principal findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Board of Auditors[13] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14]

A

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on measures taken or to be taken to implement the current recommendations of the Board of Auditors[15] and of the responses of the executive heads of the United Nations organizations and programmes[16] to the recommendations of the Board,

Taking note also of the reports of the Secretary-General on accounting standards[17] and on the inventory control system for non-expendable property at Headquarters,[18]

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[7] Ibid., Supplement No. 5F (A/51/5/Add.6), sects. I and V.

[8] Ibid., Supplement No. 5G (A/51/5/Add.7), sects. I and V.

[9] Ibid., Supplement No. 5H (A/51/5/Add.8), sects. I and IV.

[10] Ibid., Supplement No. 5I (A/51/5/Add.9), sects. I and V.

[11] Ibid., Supplement No. 5J (A/51/5/Add.10), sects. I and IV.

[12] Ibid., Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. I, sects. II and III; vol. II, sects. II and III; vol. III, sects. I and II; vol. IV, sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5A (A/51/5/Add.1), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5B (A/51/5/Add.2), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5C (A/51/5/Add.3), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5D (A/51/5/Add.4), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5E (A/51/5/Add.5), sects. I and II; ibid., Supplement No. 5F (A/51/5/Add.6), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5G (A/51/5/Add.7), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5H (A/51/5/Add.8), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5I (A/51/5/Add.9), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5J (A/51/5/Add.10), sects. II and III.

[13] A/51/283, annex.

[14] A/51/533.

[15] A/51/488 and Add.1.

[16] A/51/488/Add.2.

[17] A/51/523.

[18] A/C.5/50/51.

Expressing deep concern about the persistence of problems and defects in the financial administration and management of the United Nations observed by the Board of Auditors,

Noting with concern the observation by the Board of Auditors that there had been no significant improvement in effective budgetary control with regard to Trust Funds, despite the Board having drawn attention to this problem in its report for the biennium ended 31 December 1993,

Emphasizing the need to improve implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as approved by the General Assembly,

Commending the Board of Auditors for carrying out its reviews in a comprehensive and efficient manner, in line with regulation 12.5 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations,

1. Accepts the financial reports and audited financial statements and the audit opinions and reports of the Board regarding the aforementioned organizations, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. Also accepts the concise summary of principal findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Board of Auditors, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. Notes with serious concern that the Board of Auditors has qualified its audit opinion on the financial statements of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

4. Requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes mentioned in paragraph 3 above to take steps to rectify the situation in order to avoid another qualification during the next audit;

5. Reiterates its request that the Board of Auditors continue its audit coverage of all peacekeeping operations;

6. Approves all the recommendations and conclusions of the Board of Auditors and the comments thereon contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

7. Requests the Board of Auditors to indicate more clearly in its future reports those recommendations which have not been fully implemented and to point out, with greater precision, incidences of malpractice and violations of rules and regulations;

8. Also requests the Board of Auditors to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session proposals for improving the implementation, by the Secretary-General and the executive heads of funds and programmes, of the

recommendations of the Board, as approved by the Assembly, and for possible changes in progress reporting on such implementation;

9. Notes with concern the delays in submission of the reports of the Board of Auditors and the reports of the Secretary-General on implementation of the recommendations of the Board through the Advisory Committee to the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary financial and administrative support is provided to ensure the timeliness of the transmission of those reports in the future;

10. Requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes to provide timely responses to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and reiterates its request that the reports on measures taken or to be taken in response to the recommendations of the Board include timetables for their implementation;

11. Notes with deep concern the incidents of fraud and presumed fraud reported by the Board of Auditors;

12. Requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations concerned to take the necessary disciplinary measures in cases of proven fraud and to enhance the individual accountability of United Nations personnel, including stronger managerial control;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on measures taken to enhance accountability;

14. Notes with satisfaction the improvement in internal audit functions and structures in the United Nations, including the level of professional expertise, and requests the executive heads of those funds and programmes which continue to suffer deficiencies in this regard to take appropriate corrective measures;

15. Emphasizes the need for greater transparency and stricter controls for trust funds, including by ensuring, in particular, that expenditure from trust funds should not be incurred without the receipt of the corresponding income, nor on the basis of reimbursement to other accounts or the regular budget;

16. Welcomes the efforts made by organizations in the biennium 1994-1995 to comply with the United Nations common accounting standards;

17. Notes, however, that further work needs to be done in the biennium 1996-1997 to bring the financial statements fully in line with the United Nations common accounting standards, and requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations organizations and programmes to pursue efforts to ensure full compliance with the standards, in particular the disclosure of valuation of property and cash held in non-convertible currencies, calculation and disclosure of the end-of-service liability for termination benefits and better disclosure of delays in the collection of assessed contributions;

18. Takes note of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning budgetary assumptions used in the preparation of biennial programme budgets[19] and the comments of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee thereon,[20] and requests them to keep the matter under review;

19. Takes note also of the comments of the Board of Auditors on the need to improve performance reporting, and concurs with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee[21] that the Secretary-General should work towards improving the format of reports, in particular, by providing more up-to-date information relating to actual expenditure figures;

20. Stresses the importance of the timely completion of the self-evaluation of subprogrammes, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure better coverage and monitoring of self-evaluations;

21. Requests the Board of Auditors, the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Joint Inspection Unit to maintain and enhance, whenever possible, their cooperation, while respecting the clear distinction between internal and external oversight responsibilities;

22. Regrets that there was a steady decline in net income from revenue-producing activities during the biennium 1994-1995;

23. Also regrets that the United Nations Postal Administration and the services to visitors incurred net losses during the biennium 1994-1995, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to redress the situation and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

24. Decides to consider the other substantive findings and recommendations of the Board of Auditors under the relevant items of the agenda, and decides also to consider in future, where appropriate, the substantive findings and recommendations of the Board under the relevant items of the agenda.

B

The General Assembly,

Expressing concern at the failure of some implementing and executing agencies to comply with funding and project agreements concluded with United Nations funds and programmes,

1. Notes with deep concern the serious irregular financial practices in the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the decision by the management of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to divert $900,000 from the Foundation's funds in order to meet the financing

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[19] See A/51/488, paras. 6-11.

[20] See A/51/488, paras. 6-13, and A/51/533, paras. 39 and 40.

[21] A/51/533, para. 41.

requirements for the preparatory activities of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

2. Draws the attention of the Commission on Human Settlements to these irregularities with a view to its requesting immediate corrective action at its sixteenth session;

3. Notes the actions taken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee at its forty-seventh session[22] with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

4. Welcomes initiatives by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to improve the procedure for selecting implementing partners and auditing their activities, and emphasizes the need for improvement in the process of selecting implementing and executing partners by other funds and programmes;

5. Notes with grave concern the serious problems identified with regard to the United Nations Development Programme reserve for field accommodation;

6. Notes the actions taken by the Administrator and the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme[23] with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

7. Notes also the actions taken by the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund and its Executive Board[24] with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

8. Takes note of the recommendation that the United Nations Children's Fund review its policy of recording cash assistance in connection with programme expenditures for consistency with financial regulations and programme management procedures and notes the finding that financial control over cash assistance was not being fully achieved;

9. Takes note also of the decision of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the report of the Board of Auditors, and its request that the Executive Director implement the necessary corrective actions recommended by the Board before the end of the biennium 1996-1997;[25]

10. Notes with great concern the serious problems reported by the Board of Auditors, including the fact that eight out of twelve projects audited had

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[22] See A/AC.96/869/Add.1, paras. 4-7, and A/51/12/Add.1, para. 25.

[23] See DP/1997/3, DP/1997/6 and Executive Board decision 97/3.

[24] E/ICEF/1997/12, part I, and decision 1997/10, para. 12.

[25] Decision 19/26.

suffered cost overruns and nine had time overruns because of difficulties in identifying consultants;

11. Draws the attention of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to these irregularities with a view to its requesting immediate corrective action at its next scheduled sessions;

12. Notes the actions taken by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund[26] with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors.

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[26] See DP/FPA/1997/4 and decision 97/2.

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Agenda item 165

FINANCING OF THE MILITARY OBSERVER GROUP OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR THE VERIFICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMMITMENTS OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN GUATEMALA

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman following informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the Military Observer Group of the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1094 (1997) of 20 January 1997, by which the Council authorized the attachment to the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala of a group of 155 military observers and requisite medical personnel for a period of three months,

Recognizing that the costs of the Observer Group are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[1] A/51/815.

[2] A/51/826.

Recognizing also that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Observer Group, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Group with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

2. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Group in full and on time;

3. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observer Group is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Observer Group in accordance with paragraph 15 of his report;

6. Decides to appropriate the amount of 4 million United States dollars gross (3,956,300 dollars net) for the operation of the Observer Group for the period from 15 February to 31 May 1997, inclusive of the amount of 3 million dollars gross (2,949,300 dollars net) already authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994;

7. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 4 million dollars gross (3,956,300 dollars net) for the period from 15 February to 31 M / 1997 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set ou_ in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of

23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995;

8. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 43,700 dollars approved for the Observer Group for the period from 15 February to 31 May 1997;

9. Invites voluntary contributions to the Observer Group in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the Military Observer Group of the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala".

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Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 120

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 8, 97, 100 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolutions 47/226 of 8 April 1993 and 49/222 A and B of 23 December 1994 and 20 July 1995, and its other relevant resolutions and decisions,

Bearing in mind the views expressed by Member States on human resources management questions in the Fifth Committee during the fifty-first session of the General Assembly,[1]

Having considered the relevant reports on human resources management questions submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session,[2]

Having considered also the relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit,[3]

[1] See A/C.5/51/SR.7, 9-11, 13, 14, 16, 21, 23, 25, 26, 30, 31, 34, 37, 46, 49-51 and 55.

[2] A/51/304 and Corr.1, A/51/421 and Corr.1 and 2, A/C.5/49/63, A/C.5/49/64, A/C.5/50/64, A/C.5/51/1, A/C.5/51/6 and A/C.5/51/34.

[3] A/51/656, annex, and A/51/705, annex.

Having heard the views expressed by the staff representative in the Fifth Committee in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/213 of 17 December 1980,[4]

Reaffirming that the staff of the Organization is an invaluable asset of the United Nations, and commending its contribution to furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Paying tribute to the memory of all staff members who have lost their lives in the service of the Organization,

1. Reiterates its full support for the Secretary-General as chief administrative officer of the Organization, and underlines its full respect for his prerogatives and responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations;

2. Reaffirms its support for the integrity and independence of the international civil service, and notes the efforts of the Secretary-General to preserve these;

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES OF THE ORGANIZATION

Recalling the Secretary-General's strategy for the management of the human resources of the Organization,[5]

Welcoming the adoption by the Secretary-General of the concept of an integrated approach to human resources planning and management, as reflected in his strategy,

Reaffirming the importance of the staff-management consultative process to the functioning and activities of the Secretariat,

1. Notes the steps taken to implement a number of elements of the strategy for the management of the human resources of the Organization as set out in the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. Regrets with deep concern that further progress in the implementation of the adopted strategy has not been achieved, and urges the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to ensure its full implementation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

3. Regrets the unsuccessful efforts to develop a management environment and culture in the Organization that enables staff members to contribute their maximum potential, effectiveness and efficiency;

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[4] See A/C.5/51/SR.51.

[5] See A/C.5/49/5.

[6] A/C.5/51/1.

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to pursue the full implementation of his strategy, bearing in mind the provisions of the present resolution, as soon as possible;

5. Notes, in this connection, the phasing-in of performance management, including the introduction in 1996 of a new performance appraisal system;

II. ROLE OF THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OF THE SECRETARIAT

Reaffirming its resolution 48/218 A of 23 December 1993, in particular the request for a mechanism ensuring that programme managers are accountable for the effective management of the human resources allocated to them,

Noting with appreciation that the Joint Inspection Unit in its report of 5 November 1996[7] has dealt with recruitment, placement and promotion policies in a comprehensive manner,

Reiterating the authority and responsibility of the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat to enforce recruitment, placement and promotion policies throughout the Secretariat,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on staff representational activities,[8]

1. Recognizes the role of the Office of Human Resources Management as the primary representative of the Secretary-General in establishing human resources policies and guidelines, and strongly requests the Secretary-General to maintain its central policy authority;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to enhance managerial accountability with respect to human resources management decisions, including imposing sanctions in cases of demonstrated mismanagement of staff, wilful neglect of or disregard for established rules and procedures, while safeguarding the due process rights of all staff members, including managers;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to issue specific administrative instructions to establish clearly the responsibility and accountability of programme managers for proper use of human resources, as well as sanctions in accordance with staff rule 112.3 for any financial loss suffered by the United Nations as a result of gross negligence, including improper motivation, wilful violation or reckless disregard of the Staff Regulations and Rules and established policies regulating recruitment, placement and promotion;

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[7] A/51/656, annex.

[8] A/C.5/49/63, A/C.5/49/64, A/C.5/50/64 and A/C.5/51/6.

4. Deplores the high number of exceptions to the established procedures for the recruitment, placement and promotion of staff, in particular in the Office of Human Resources Management;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to announce all vacancies so as to give equal opportunity to all qualified staff and to encourage mobility, it being understood that the discretionary power of the Secretary-General of appointment and promotion outside the established procedures should be limited to his Executive Office and the Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General levels, as well as Special Envoys at all levels;

6. Welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to streamline administrative procedures and eliminate duplication, in relation to human resources management, through delegation of authority to programme managers, and requests him to ensure, before delegating such authority, that well-designed mechanisms of accountability, including the necessary internal monitoring and control procedures, as well as training, are put in place, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to expedite the simplification and streamlining of all personnel rules and procedures in order to make them transparent and easier to apply, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

8. Reaffirms the need for the Secretary-General to use, to the fullest extent, the staff-management consultative mechanisms set out in staff rule 108.2 and to strengthen the staff-management dialogue in the United Nations and all of its funds and programmes, and requests him to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 provision to the Office of Human Resources Management of the level of resources commensurate with the mandate set out above;

10. Recalls that the functions of staff representatives are official;

11. Also recalls that elected staff representatives are staff members of the United Nations;

12. Recognizes the fact that staff representatives are entitled to an opportunity for career advancement, decides that the period of their continuous release shall not exceed four years, and also decides to limit such release to elected staff representatives only, on either a full-time or a part-time basis;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly a report on the practice of Member States relative to the financing of national staff representation, and on the proportion of representation of staff;

III. HUMAN RESOURCES PLANNING, RECRUITMENT, STATUS OF WOMEN AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Recalling Articles 8 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

A. Human resources planning

Emphasizing the importance of human resources planning to both recruitment and career development,

1. Takes note of the preliminary work in human resources planning, especially in the projection of recruitment needs at the entry level from 1997 to 2001, and requests that these activities be continued and expanded;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with relevant staff rules and regulations, to use, to the greatest extent possible, existing mechanisms, such as agreed termination or granting leave without pay, to create opportunities for upward mobility for existing staff and for recruiting new staff;

B. Recruitment

Stressing the vital importance of the recruitment of new staff to meet the needs of the Organization,

1. Reaffirms that no post should be considered the exclusive preserve of any Member State or group of States, including at the highest level;

2. Recognizes that the system of desirable ranges is the mechanism for the recruitment of staff in posts subject to geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to take every available measure to ensure, at the senior and policy-making levels of the Secretariat, the equitable representation of Member States, in particular of developing countries and Member States with inadequate representation at those levels, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and to include relevant information in future reports on the composition of the Secretariat;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General, in this regard, to exercise flexibility in the application of desirable ranges in individual recruitment cases, bearing in mind all parts of the present resolution;

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity serve as the primary criteria in the recruitment of staff;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, while ensuring that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity serve as the primary criteria in the recruitment of staff, to ensure also that the search for and selection of

candidates are conducted in accordance with the guiding principles of achieving equitable geographical distribution and providing equal opportunity for men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in the work of the Secretariat;

7. Reaffirms that secondment from government service is consistent with Articles 100 and 101 of the Charter and beneficial to both the Organization and Member States, and urges the Secretary-General to pursue this practice on a wider scale, as appropriate;

8. Notes the efforts of the Secretary-General to conduct a targeted search for candidates from Member States that are unrepresented or under-represented and below the mid-point of their desirable ranges, and requests that he continue to expand these efforts;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to restrict the practice of temporary appointments against regular budget or extrabudgetary posts of one year or more to temporary needs, for example, replacement of staff on field mission assignment and authorized leave;

10. Also requests the Secretary-General to take effective measures to prevent the placement of staff members against higher-level unencumbered posts for periods longer than three months, and further requests the Secretary-General to issue vacancy announcements within a three-month period;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to instruct all programme managers to inform the Office of Human Resources Management of all vacancies immediately and of all foreseen vacancies six months before the post becomes vacant;

12. Notes that the posts subject to the desirable range formula are limited to the current level of 2,700 posts;

13. Requests that the Secretary-General should not include staff members recruited against support account posts in the desirable range calculation;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to apply the requirements of Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter to recruit staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible to all posts outside the desirable ranges;

15. Reaffirms the policy of the Secretary-General that appointment to P-1 and P-2 posts and to posts requiring special language competence shall be made exclusively through competitive examination and that appointment to posts at the P-3 level shall normally be made through competitive examination;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to hold national competitive examinations for posts at the P-2 and P-3 levels as a useful tool for selecting the best qualified candidates from inadequately represented Member States; special attention should be paid to the prospects of staff for promotion to the P-3 level and to the need to conduct such examinations with maximum efficiency and economy;

17. Invites the Member States concerned to participate in those examinations;

18. Requests the Secretary-General not to decrease the proportion of entrance-level posts at the P-1 to P-3 levels for budgetary purposes;

19. Also requests the Secretary-General, notwithstanding the provisions of section V of the present resolution, to offer or to continue to offer probationary appointments to all staff members who have successfully passed a competitive recruitment examination and to consider all such staff members for conversion to permanent appointment after completion of the period of probationary service;

20. Further requests the Secretary-General, in the case of staff recruited through competitive examinations, to ensure that only those who meet the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity established in the Charter are granted permanent appointments;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to complete the realignment to the national competitive examinations of the competitive examination for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories, in particular regarding academic qualifications;

22. Also requests the Secretary-General to make proposals on the introduction of a probationary period for successful candidates in the competitive examinations for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories;

23. Further requests the Secretary-General to report on the question of geographical imbalance resulting from promotions through the competitive examinations for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories to posts subject to geographical distribution;

24. Urges the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures, including instructions to department heads, as needed, to place all successful candidates from the national competitive examinations within one year, subject to the availability of posts;

25. Requests the Secretary-General to accord priority consideration to successful candidates from the national competitive examinations who have not been placed within one year for all other vacancies, including those of short duration;

26. Also requests the Secretary-General to extend the current practice of barring interns from applying for or being appointed to posts in the Secretariat during a period of six months after the end of their internships to consultants and personnel provided on a non-reimbursable basis, and also requests that persons filling regular budget posts or extrabudgetary posts on short-term appointments of one year or more be barred from applying for or being appointed to their current post within six months of the end of their current service;

27. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that persons serving in peacekeeping or other field missions become eligible for consideration for internal vacancies in the Secretariat after having served for at least twelve months; should they be considered for appointment, established recruitment criteria and relevant rules shall apply;

28. Requests the Secretary-General to resume normal recruitment activities at all levels as soon as possible;

C. Status of women in the Secretariat

Reaffirming that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibility for administrative, budgetary and human resources management matters, including, in this context, the question of the representation of women in the Secretariat,

Welcoming the achievement of the goal of a 35 per cent overall participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution,

Noting with concern that the goal set in its resolution 45/239 C of 21 December 1990 of a 25 per cent participation rate of women in posts at the D-1 level and above by 1995 is still far from being achieved,

Recalling its resolution 51/67 of 12 December 1996, including the reaffirmation of the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by the year 2000,

Concerned that this goal may not be met, especially at the policy-making and decision-making levels of D-1 and above,

Noting that the overall percentage of representation of women in all Professional posts was 33.66 per cent as at 31 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the Secretary-General in his efforts to achieve this goal should take into account the principle that the paramount consideration shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution,

1. Urges the Secretary-General fully to implement and monitor the strategic plan of action for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat 1995-2000;[9]

2. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his work to create a gender-sensitive work environment, through the implementation of all appropriate human resources management policies and procedures, ensuring that managers are evaluated on their activities in this regard in the context of the performance appraisal system;

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[9] A/49/587 and Corr.1, sect. IV.

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to develop a family leave programme for United Nations staff without creating supplementary leave entitlements, and to report thereon to the General Assembly as soon as possible;

4. Decides to consider the structure and source of funding for the Focal Point for Women in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999, and requests the Secretary-General to make proposals in this regard with a view to ensuring the provision of an adequate level of resources commensurate with the mandate;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures, as soon as possible, to allow the mandate of the Focal Point for Women to be fulfilled;

6. Encourages the Secretary-General, consistent with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, to appoint more women at the D-1 level and above so as to reduce the gender gap and to reach the mandated General Assembly target of 25 per cent women in senior decision-making-level positions as soon as possible;

7. Urges the Secretary-General, consistent with Article 101 of the Charter, to increase the number of women employed in the Secretariat from developing countries, in particular those which are unrepresented or under-represented and from countries that have a low representation of women, including countries with economies in transition;

8. Strongly encourages Member States to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to increase the percentage of women in Professional posts, especially at the D-1 level and above, by identifying and regularly presenting more women candidates and by encouraging women to apply for posts in the Secretariat of the United Nations and the specialized agencies;

D. Career development

Recognizing that career development is an indispensable part of effective human resources management,

Noting with concern the absence of progress in developing a fully integrated career development system,

1. Regrets that the Secretary-General has not yet established a career development policy in the Secretariat, and requests him to establish such a policy as soon as possible and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to meet the goals and objectives set by the General Assembly in various resolutions by establishing as a matter of priority a comprehensive career development and promotion system;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on how linguistic qualifications are taken into

account in the performance appraisal system and the recruitment and promotion policy, including for language staff;

4. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the feasibility of holding the national competitive examinations in the six official languages, without prejudice to the mandatory knowledge of English and French as working languages;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to make proposals aimed at ensuring that nationals of Member States whose mother tongue is not an official or working language of the United Nations are not placed at a disadvantage when taking national competitive examinations;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to pursue the development and implementation of the managed reassignment programmes for entry-level and other staff as outlined in his report on the implementation of his strategy,[10] and to budget the required posts accordingly;

7. Notes that only modest progress has been made towards achieving greater staff mobility for internationally recruited staff as called for in the strategy, and reiterates the importance of making substantive progress towards that objective;

8. Regrets that the report on mobility requested in section V, paragraph 2, of resolution 49/222 A has not yet been submitted to the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to submit that report to the Assembly at its fifty-third session;

9. Notes with concern the fact that delays in completion of performance appraisal reports have an adverse effect on staff members being considered by the appointment and promotion bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure that the managers preparing the reports are held accountable for any such delays;

10. Requests that, to the extent possible for a fair evaluation of staff members, the recruitment and promotion procedure not be postponed to the detriment of staff members for want of performance appraisal reports;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to utilize the performance appraisal system to foster staff-management dialogue, including the identification of staff development and career opportunities, and to report to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-first session on the findings of the review of the first cycle of the performance appraisal system;

12. Stresses the fact that the new performance appraisal system is only one of the elements of a comprehensive career development plan in the Secretariat;

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[10] A/C.5/51/1, paras. 29-31.

13. Notes with appreciation the strengthened training programmes, inter alia, people management training, upgrading of substantive skills, information technology, communications and training in all six official languages on an equal basis, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to invest in the Organization's future capacity by sustaining and expanding these programmes in order to meet organizational needs and individual career development aspirations;

14. Welcomes the Secretary-General's intention to strengthen further the professional training of the staff, so as to foster management capacity and to ensure that staff continue to receive necessary refresher training over the course of their careers;

IV. REDEPLOYMENT

1. Notes the impact of the economy measures on the personnel policies of the Organization;

2. Recognizes the need to maintain an adequate environment in the Secretariat and to sustain the morale of staff members;

3. Reiterates its request contained in paragraph 12 of its resolution 51/221 B of 18 December 1996 and decides to consider the report on the situation of staff members on the redeployment list as a matter of priority during the next part of its resumed fifty-first session;

4. Recognizes that measures related to personnel matters invoked in order to obtain savings should not entail changes in the Staff Regulations and Rules without the prior approval of the General Assembly;

V. RATIO BETWEEN CAREER AND FIXED-TERM APPOINTMENTS

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the ratio between career and fixed-term appointments,[11]

1. Underlines the importance of the concept of career service for staff members performing continuing core functions;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to make efforts to achieve the level of 70 per cent of permanent appointments in geographical posts and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

3. Decides that five years of continuing service as stipulated in its resolution 37/126 of 17 December 1982 do not confer the automatic right to a permanent appointment, and also decides that other considerations, such as outstanding performance, the operational realities of the organizations and the core functions of the post, should be duly taken into account;

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[11] A/C.5/51/34.

4. Endorses in principle the introduction of a dual-track system of career and non-career appointments, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session detailed proposals for the implementation of that system, including a definition of continuing core functions with a full explanation of the manner in which such a definition would be applied, and the text of any necessary amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules that would be required in order to implement the new system;

VI. CONSULTANTS

Having considered the summary of the principal findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Board of Auditors[12] and the related comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[13]

Noting with deep concern that, despite repeated recommendations by the Board, serious irregularities persist in the identification, terms of reference, hiring, remuneration and management of consultants, including lack of geographical balance,

1. Expresses its concern about the practice of using consultants to carry out functions assigned to established posts, and requests the Secretary-General to refrain from this practice;

2. Notes with concern the observations of the Board of Auditors that a number of findings warrant further investigation with a view to taking appropriate action against personnel responsible for such malpractice,[14] and requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action in this regard and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

3. Requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations organizations and programmes to ensure selection of consultants on a more competitive basis and to keep the instances of recourse to sole candidates to a strict minimum, each such case being formally approved at an appropriate level of authority, on an exceptional basis, prior to engagement;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to prepare, no later than the end of 1997, comprehensive policy guidelines on the terms of reference (including objectives, targets and output delivery dates), selection, hiring and renewal of consultants and ensuring transparency and objectivity in the selection process, and to submit those guidelines to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for review before their consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session under the item entitled "Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors";

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[12] A/51/283, annex.

[13] See A/51/533.

[14] Ibid., para. 31.

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to revise the assessment form on consultants to make it more detailed and more clearly indicative of the quality of the consultant's work and his or her ability to undertake future assignments;

6. Endorses the recommendations made by the Board of Auditors in its report,[15] and requests the Secretary-General to implement them;

7. Also endorses the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the Secretariat resume the past practice of submitting, on a biennial basis and in conjunction with the report requested by the Committee on the hiring of retired staff, a report on the hiring and use of consultants, which should follow the format of past reports on the subject;[16]

VII. REPORTING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, under the appropriate agenda items, reports on the following questions:

(a) As soon as possible

A family leave programme for United Nations staff;

(b) At the resumed fifty-first session

The findings of the review of the first cycle of the performance appraisal system;

(c) At the fifty-second session

(i) The appropriate action taken against personnel responsible for malpractices identified by the Board of Auditors;

(ii) Comprehensive policy guidelines on consultants, to be submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(d) At the fifty-third session

(i) Information on measures taken to ensure equitable representation of Member States at the senior and policy-making levels of the Secretariat, to be included in the report on the composition of the Secretariat;

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[15] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. I, chap. II, paras. 155-189.

[16] A/51/533, para. 44.

(ii) The full implementation of the strategy for the management of the human resources of the Organization;

(iii) Delegation of authority;

(iv) The simplification and streamlining of all personnel rules and procedures;

(v) Staff-management consultative mechanisms;

(vi) The practice of Member States relative to national staff representation;

(vii) Proposals on the introduction of a probationary period for successful candidates in the competitive examinations for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories;

(viii) The question of geographical imbalance resulting from promotions of successful candidates in the competitive examinations for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories;

(ix) Career development policy;

(x) Linguistic qualifications in the context of the performance appraisal system and the recruitment and promotion policy;

(xi) The feasibility of holding national competitive examinations in the six official languages, including proposals to ensure that Member States whose mother tongue is not an official language of the United Nations are not placed at a disadvantage;

(xii) Mobility;

(xiii) The efforts made by the Secretary-General to achieve the level of 70 per cent of permanent appointments in geographical posts;

(xiv) Detailed proposals for the implementation of a dual-track system of career and non-career appointments;

(xv) The hiring of retirees and the hiring and use of consultants.

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General Assembly

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A/C.5/51/L.50
27 March 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 119

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Japan: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the scale of assessments, in particular resolutions 48/223 B and C of 23 December 1993,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Contributions,[1]

Reaffirming that the capacity to pay of Member States is the fundamental criterion for determining the scale of assessments,

1. Requests the Committee on Contributions to recommend to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a scale of assessments for the period 1998-2000 on the basis of the following elements and criteria:

(a) Gross national product, to be used as a first approximation of capacity to pay;

(b) Adoption of a statistical base period of six years;

(c) Uniform exchange rates in accordance with the criteria contained in paragraph 3 (b) of General Assembly resolution 46/221 B of 20 December 1991;

(d) Debt adjustment, to be based on actual principal payments;

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/50/11).

(e) Establishment of a low per capita income allowance formula with a per capita income limit of the average world per capita income for the statistical base period and a gradient of 75 per cent;

(f) Establishment of a floor rate of 0.001 per cent and a ceiling rate of 25 per cent;

(g) Phasing out of the effect of the scheme of limits in equal instalments by the year 2000;

2. Decides that in phasing out the scheme of limits, the allocation of additional points resulting therefrom to developing countries benefiting from its application shall be limited to 15 per cent of the effect of the phase-out;

3. Decides also that individual rates for the least developed countries shall not exceed the level of 0.01 per cent;

4. Decides further that permanent members of the Security Council would not be eligible for a low per capita income allowance in calculating their scale of assessments for the regular budget.

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FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 113

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 50/205 A of 23 December 1995, on the final budget appropriations for the biennium 1994-1995, and section IV of its resolution 51/219 of 18 December 1996, on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1994-1995, decides that it has concluded consideration of the item entitled "Programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995".

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NATIONS

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Agenda items 116, 120, 137, 139 and 140

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

FINANCING OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA SINCE 1991

FINANCING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF RWANDA AND RWANDAN CITIZENS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER SUCH VIOLATIONS COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF NEIGHBOURING STATES BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 31 DECEMBER 1994

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

Draft decision proposed by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations

Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities

The General Assembly:

(a) Decides to defer consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities[1] and the

[1] A/51/688 and Corr.1.

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report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon[2] to the second part of its resumed fifty-first session;

(b) Requests the Secretary-General, on an interim basis, and pending consideration of this question and a final decision thereon:

(i) Not to expand the number of gratis personnel currently implementing mandated activities mentioned in paragraphs 24 to 40 of his report;[1]

(ii) In the case of new and/or expanded needs implying urgent requirements for expertise not available within the Organization, to resort to the use of gratis personnel with due regard to the importance of maintaining as wide a geographical basis as possible, for a very limited and specified period, and, in order to ensure transparency, to approach all Member States on the possibility of providing that expertise on a temporary basis;

(iii) To review the proposed guidelines annexed to his report[3] and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly before 12 May 1997 for its consideration during the second part of its resumed fifty-first session;

(iv) To update the information provided in his report, including data on the nationality of gratis personnel and detailed descriptions of the functions entrusted to them, and to report on any change in the use of gratis personnel after 31 October 1996 to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed fifty-first session;

(v) To submit a comprehensive report before 12 May 1997 on the methodology and level to be applied to the administrative support costs mentioned in paragraphs 51 to 66 of his report,[1] including their legislative basis, and, in the interim, to maintain the status quo in this regard.

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[2] A/51/813.

[3] A/51/688 and Corr.1, annex I.

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NATIONS

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FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 119

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Canada: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the scale of assessments, in particular resolutions 46/221 B of 20 December 1991 and 48/223 B of 23 December 1993,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Contributions,[1]

Recalling Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that the capacity to pay of Member States is the fundamental criterion for determining the scale of assessments, and that the expenses of the Organization should be apportioned broadly according to capacity to pay,

1. Takes note of the conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group on the Implementation of the Principle of Capacity to Pay, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/19 A of 29 November 1994;[2]

2. Notes the progress of the review of all aspects of the scale methodology, undertaken by the Committee on Contributions pursuant to General

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/50/11); A/50/11/Add.1 and Corr.1; and A/50/11/Add.2 and Corr.2.

[2] A/49/897.

Assembly resolution 48/223 C,[1] and requests the Committee on Contributions to keep under review the elements of the methodology identified in its report as requiring further consideration;

3. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions contained in its report on its fifty-sixth session,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. Requests the Committee on Contributions to recommend to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a scale of assessments for the period 1998-2000 on the basis of the following elements:

(a) Estimates of gross national product, as a first approximation of capacity to pay, and subject to the adjustments for factors identified by the General Assembly, as recommended by the Committee on Contributions in paragraph 28 of its report;[2]

(b) A statistical base period of three years;

(c) Conversion rates as recommended by the Committee on Contributions in paragraph 38 of its report;[2]

(d) The debt adjustment approach proposed by the Committee on Contributions in paragraph 41 of its report;

(e) A low per capita income allowance formula with a per capita income limit of the average world per capita income for the statistical base period an a gradient of 85 per cent below the limit, the additional points resulting therefrom to be absorbed progressively by countries with per capita income abov the limit, using a gradient of 25 per cent;

(f) No floor rate;

(g) A ceiling rate of 25 per cent;

(h) Phasing out of the remaining effects of the scheme of limits completely with effect from 1 January 1998, in accordance with paragraph 1 (f) of resolution 48/223 B;

(i) Expression of the scale of assessments in four decimal places of a percentage point;

5. Endorses the view of the Committee on Contributions that the length o the statistical base period should be a multiple of the scale period, and that the length of the base period should be kept constant in successive scale periods;

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[1] See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/50/11); and A/50/11/Add.2 and Corr.1.

[2] A/50/11/Add.2 and Corr.1.

6. Decides that the gross national product and world income shares of Member States should be recalculated annually on the basis of a three-year rolling average and the scale of assessments adjusted accordingly;

7. Decides also, with reference to rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, that the annual recalculation provided for in paragraph 6 shall not be deemed to be a general revision of the scale of assessments;

8. Decides further that individual rates for the least developed countries shall not exceed the level of 0.01 per cent.

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Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 120

RESPECT FOR THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, under Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, all officials of the Organization shall enjoy in the territory of each of its Members such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent exercise of their functions in connection with the Organization,

Also recalling that, under Article 100 of the Charter, each Member of the United Nations undertakes to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities,

Further recalling the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[1] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies,[2] the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Atomic Energy Agency[3] and the United Nations Development Programme standard basic assistance agreements,

Stressing that respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies is becoming even more imperative

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[1] Resolution 22 A (I).

[2] Resolution 179 (II).

[3] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 347, p. 147.

owing to the growing number of assignments entrusted by Member States to the organizations of the United Nations system,

Recalling its resolution 76 (I) of 7 December 1946, in which it approved the granting of the privileges and immunities referred to in articles V and VII of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations to all members of the staff of the United Nations, with the exception of those who are recruited locally and are assigned to hourly rates,

Also recalling its resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988, to which is annexed the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, including the principle that all persons under arrest or detention shall be provided whenever necessary with medical care and treatment,

Reiterating the obligation of all officials of the Organization in the conduct of their duties to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization,

Mindful of the responsibility of the Secretary-General to safeguard the functional immunity of all United Nations officials,

Mindful also of the importance in this respect of the immediate provision by Member States of adequate information concerning the arrest and detention of staff members and, more particularly, of their granting of access to them,

Bearing in mind the responsibility of the Secretary-General to guarantee appropriate standards of justice and due process to United Nations officials,

Recalling the relevant conventions and also its resolutions 49/59 of 9 December 1994, in which it adopted the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and 51/137 of 13 December 1996,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations as well as their security and safety,[4] and of the statement made to the Fifth Committee by the United Nations Security Coordinator on 15 October 1996;[5]

2. Expresses its deep appreciation to United Nations personnel, including those engaged in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations, and locally recruited staff, for their efforts to contribute to achieving peace and security and to alleviating the suffering of the people living in areas of conflict;

3. Deplores the risks confronting United Nations personnel, including those engaged in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations, and locally recruited staff;

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[4] A/C.5/51/3.

[5] See A/C.5/51/SR.7.

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations as well as their security and safety;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to pay special attention to Member States' restrictions, which may impede the ability of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations to carry out their functions, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.